Regular Meeting, Wednesday, August 14, 2024, 7:00 p.m., Government Center, Verona, VA.

PRESENT: Jeffrey Slaven, Chairman
Pam Carter, Vice-Chair
Michael Shull
Butch Wells
Gerald Garber
Carolyn Bragg
Scott Seaton
Timothy K. Fitzgerald, County Administrator
Jennifer M. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator
Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development
Julia Hensley, Planner II
James Benkahla, County Attorney
Angie Michael, Executive Assistant

VIRGINIA: At an adjourned meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., at the Government Center, Verona, Virginia, and in the 249th year of the Commonwealth....

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Chairman Slaven welcomed those present at the meeting.

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The following students from the Buffalo Gap High School FFA led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance:

Emory Seal is a senior and one of the Presidents of the Buffalo Gap FFA Chapter. He is a part of the State winning Parliamentary Procedure Team. He plans to attend a community college to study Ag Education.

Makayla Wood is a junior and is currently serving as one of the Vice Presidents. She is also a part of the State winning Parliamentary Procedure Team. She plans to attend Virginia Tech and study Ag Business and Animal Sciences.

Raven Gwaltney is a sophomore and serve as one of the Secretaries. She would like to become an Embryologist or a Veterinarian.

Luke Gardner is a senior and is serving as the Reporter. He plans to attend Blue Ridge Community College's two-year Ag Program.

Presley Hoy is a junior and serves as the Student Advisor. Plans to attend a community college and study to become a Registered Nurse.

Carrington Floyd is a sophomore and serves as the Chaplain. She plans to attend Farrier School.

Gracelyn Swisher is a sophomore and serves as the Community Service Chairman. She plans to study Cosmetology.

Coleman Seal is a freshman and plans to attend a community college and go through the Ag Program.

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August 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Pam Carter, Pastures District, delivered the invocation.

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Mr. Wells stated that the Early Detection Screening was originally on the agenda and then removed. He requests that it be placed back on the agenda for consideration.

Ms. Carter stated that the Board previously voted to postpone this item for ninety days and that would put it on the agenda for the August 28th meeting.

Mr. Wells pointed out that ninety days would be Tuesday, August 20th which would require a special meeting.

Ms. Bragg's concern with adding back to the agenda would be that no one was in attendance if there were questions.

Mr. Wells stated that this issue was discussed earlier with Fire-Rescue and Mr. Fitzgerald regarding this matter.

Mr. Shull asked for answers to some questions and they have not been answered. He is in favor of waiting.

Dr. Seaton stated that the money is in the current budget and it should be funded this year.

Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Dr. Seaton, that the Board place Early Detection Screenings on the agenda for consideration.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Shull, Garber, Wells and Bragg
Nays: Carter and Seaton

Motion carried.

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EARLY DETECTION SCREENINGS FOLLOW UP

Mr. Wells stated that there are still numerous questions and clarification is needed. This was a budgeted item that was not funded this year and would like to have the Fire Chief bring it back in his next budget request.

Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board move the item as a next budget year request.

Dr. Seaton stated that this is an important matter and the funding is available from the current budget to cover this and it could also come be funded through infrastructure accounts if necessary.

Ms. Bragg stated that is about more than just the money.

Mr. Wells clarified that he is not against the screening and realizes that funding is available. His intent with this motion is to gain a clear path of what is being asked for and have a well defined inclusive program.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells and Bragg
Nays: Seaton

Motion carried.

August 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

EARLY DETECTION SCREENINGS FOLLOW UP (CONT'D)
Dr. Seaton moved that the Board approve funding for Fire/Rescue with at least ten years of experience of the active duties fire fighters for the early detection screenings from the Wayne Infrastructure account.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Seaton
Nays: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells and Bragg

Motion failed.

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SAW-MPO
The Board received an update on the Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Zach Beard, Program Manager at the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission and Gareth Bartholomew, Transportation Planner, provided an overview of the what the SAW-MPO does and provided an update on the SAW-MPO Long Range Transportation Range.

The Board accepted as information.

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239 LONG MEADOW ROAD-REMOVAL OF GARBAGE
The Board considered removal of garbage in accordance with Ordinance 15-21.

Doug Wolfe, Director of Community Development, stated that it is requested of the Board to deem it necessary pursuant to VA Code Section 15.2-901 and Augusta County Code Section 15-21 for the county to have its own agents or employees remove all trash, garbage, refuse, litter, and other substances which might endanger the health or safety of other residents of the county from 239 Long Meadow Road, Fishersville. The cost or expenses would be chargeable to and paid by the owner of the property pursuant to State and county Code. The county has been dealing with the same issue on this property with this landowner repeatedly since February 2023. Instead of having waste regularly picked up, the owner "stores" what is apparently household-type trash by accumulating bags of garbage in piles on the property without properly without properly securing it in containers.

Dr. Seaton has viewed the property and is unsure where the health hazard is. The Health Department has not visited the property for ten months. He requests that this be postponed for now because it is not an issue. If it becomes an issue in the future, he requests that a Health Department letter be provided.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Ms. Carter, that the Board approve that the status of the property be evaluated and give an update at the next Staff Briefing meeting. If the issue is not taken care of, it will be placed back on the agenda for September 11, 2024.

239 LONG MEADOW ROAD-REMOVAL OF GARBAGE (CONT'D)

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells and Bragg
Nays: None
Abstain: Seaton

Motion carried.

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INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING REQUEST

The Board considered a funding request from Stuarts Draft High School for athletic field improvements.

Funding Source:	South River Infrastructure	709105-480161	$3,666.67
	Wayne Infrastructure	709105-480171	$3,666.67
	Beverley Manor Infrastructure	709105-480111	$3,666.66

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that this is a request from Stuarts Draft High School for improvements to their baseball and softball fields in the amount of $11,000.00. the Athletic Director has worked hard to get community support for several projects at the high school that has allowed for numerous improvements to the athletic facilities.

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Dr. Seaton, that the Board approve the funding request as presented.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried.

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CONSENT AGENDA

The Board considered the following:

MINUTES

- Regular Meeting, Wednesday, May 22, 2024
- Regular Meeting, Wednesday, June 12, 2024
- Staff Briefing, Monday, June 24, 2024

CLAIMS

Consider claims paid since July 1, 2024

Ms. Carter moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve the consent agenda as presented.

Dr. Seaton requested that the June 12, 2024 minutes be removed from the Consent Agenda.

The Board voted on the May 22, 2024 and June 24, 2024 minutes and the claims paid.

August 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA (CONT'D)

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried.

Ms. Carter moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board approve the minutes from June 12, 2024.

Dr. Seaton stated that the request for the removal of minutes goes back to the January 3, 2024 minutes and the specific questions that were asked of the Chair and Vice Chair candidates.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells and Bragg
Nays: Seaton

Motion carried.

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MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC

Scott Cline, Augusta County Watch, is concerned with the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals not being live streamed. He is also concerned with the Board of Supervisors meetings not being streamed on Facebook.

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MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY STAFF

The following was discussed:

1) Mr. Fitzgerald plans to write a letter of support for Camp Shenandoah to place this property into an easement. This would allow it remain as is. This letter would support their easement application. This also supports our current Comprehensive Plan and the State's Outdoor Plan for recreation space.
2) Dr. Seaton moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board approve a funding request from Augusta Regional Dental Clinic for new dental chair in the amount of $13,500.00.

Funding Source:	Wayne Infrastructure	709105-480171	$4,500.00
	South River Infrastructure	709105-480161	$4,500.00
	Beverley Manor Infrastructure	709105-480111	$4,500.00

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried.

3) Jennifer Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator, stated that this is the time year when the renewal of the legislative services contract. Eldon James is the County's liaison for the General Assembly. Cooperative Procurement with Fauquier County will be used and the increase is approximately $1,600.00 from the prior year for a total of $33,840.48. This is a budgeted item in the Board of Supervisors budget. Staff will move forward with the renewal unless directed to do differently from the Board.

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MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE BOARD

Dr. Seaton discussed the machinery and tools tax and asked for clarification on how the tax is figured.

Mr. Fitzgerald explained the process and suggests reaching out to George Price, Commissioner of the Revenue for a more in-depth explanation.

Dr. Seaton commended the School Board for utilizing solar energy for the County schools.

Mr. Garber stated that as of August 1, 2024, he no longer has a solar conflict due to expired contracts.

Ms. Bragg thanked the fire-rescue personnel for their assistance with the train accident. She also requests that staff evaluate what an acreage cap for solar would like for the County.

Mr. Shull OSHA is proposing changes in regulations for volunteers. He requests that a letter be sent to Congressman and Senators stating concerns with these changes.

Mr. Slaven thanked VDOT road work they did in his area.

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CLOSED SESSION

On motion of Ms. Carter, seconded by Mr. Shull, the Board went into closed session pursuant to:

(1) **the personnel exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1)** [discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body]:

a) Boards and Commissions: Broadband, Parks & Rec, Recycling, Valley Community Services Board.

(2) **the economic development exemption under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(5)** [discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of its interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the county]:

a) Proposed Office space, flex space, storage facilities, manufacturing facilities, utility and mixed-use development.

Dr. Seaton moved that the Board add Planning Commission to the personnel exemption list for discussion.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Carter, Garber, Wells and Seaton
Nays: Bragg, Shull and Slaven

Motion carried.

August 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

<u>CLOSED SESSION</u> (CONT'D)

The Board voted on the motion to enter into closed session

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg And Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried.

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On motion of Mr. Shull, seconded by Ms. Bragg, the Board came out of Closed Session.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg And Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried.

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The Chairman advised that each member is required to certify that to the best of their knowledge during the closed session only the following was discussed:

1. Public business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements, and

2. Only such public business matters identified in the motion to convene the executive session.

The Chairman asked if there is any Board member who cannot so certify.

Hearing none, the Chairman called upon the County Administrator/ Clerk of the Board to call the roll noting members of the Board who approve the certification shall answer AYE and those who cannot shall answer NAY.

Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg And Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Chairman authorized the County Administrator/Clerk of the Board to record this certification in the minutes.

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August 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
Mr. Wells moved, seconded by Ms. Bragg, that the Board appoint Matt Dana to serve an unexpired term on the Broadband Committee. Effective immediately and to expire June 30, 2026.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg And Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried.

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ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Shull, seconded by Ms. Carter, moved that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg And Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried.

Chairman

County Administrator

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